

Recreation and Culture is focused on improving quality of life for city residents and visitors by managing facilities, programs and activities that challenge the whole person: body, mind and spirit. The area oversees the operation of Parks & Recreation, the Southern Museum and Smith-Gilbert Gardens.

Parks & Recreation

The [Parks & Recreation Department](#) provides the highest quality recreational opportunities by developing both active and passive programs and facilities to promote the physical, social, and mental wellness of its citizens. Find a full listing of activities and special events on the Parks & Recreation webpages and in the Parks & Recreation Program Guide.

Southern Museum

[The Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History](#) offers the opportunity to step back in time and experience a taste of life in the Civil War era. It is the home of The General, the locomotive made famous in the Great Locomotive Chase.

Smith Gilbert Gardens

[Smith-Gilbert Gardens](#) is a 16-acre wonderland of verdant foliage, flowers and original sculptures. It's a place to relax, meander and let the peace and harmony of being surrounded by the beauty of nature refresh and revitalize the soul.

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